

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4738

USDOC FOR BEWT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECON, ENRG, EMIN, EWWT, UR
SUBJECT: LOCATION OF POTENTIAL LNG PLANT FOR TYUMEN GAS

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 3202, (B) STATE 38262 (E-ER-7-50838)

1. DURING LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH E/C COUNSELOR,
FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF SOVIET MARITIME FLEET VLADIMIR
1. TIKHONOV STATED THAT MOST EASTWARD CONCEIVABLE POINT
FOR PUTATIVE LNG PLANT FOR TYUMEN GAS (PARA 7, REFTELS)
WOULD BE PORT OF INDIGA, EAST OF ARCHANGELSK ON SEA OF
PECHORA. TIKHONOV STATED THAT LNG PLANT CLOSER TO OB
RIVER ESTUARY ON KARA SEA WOULD BE INFEASIBLE DUE TO THICK-
NESS OF ICE AND SHALLOWNESS OF WATER. AT PRESENT, IT IS
POSSIBLE FOR SHIPS TO UNLOAD IN THIS AREA FROM DEEP WATER
ON TO ICE, FOR RETRANSPORT ON TO LAND. WHEN ICE MELTS,
HOWEVER, SHIPS CANNOT GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO SHORE TO LAND
CARGO, ACCORDING TO TIKHONOV. HE EMPHASIZED THAT RISK TO
ANY GAS-BEARING TANKER TRANSPORT IN KARA SEA PACK ICE
WOULD BE PROHIBITIVE.

2. COMMENT: THIS DISCUSSION DOES NOT SUGGEST ANY SOVIET
INTENTION TO BUILD SUCH AN LNG FACILITY BUT WAS LIMITED
TO EXPLORATION OF FEASIBILITY OF LOCATION OF A PLANT NEARER
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TO GAS SOURCE THAN MURMANSK. TIKHONOV IS HIMSELF A NATIVE
OF OMSK, WHOSE FATHER WAS A RIVER-BOAT WORKER. WE BELIEVE
HIS VIEWS ARE AUTHROIATIVE INsofar AS FEASIBILITY OF WATER
TRANSPORT.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: LPG, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, GAS PRODUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
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